

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 28, 1999  
PARAMEDIC TASK FORCE MEETING  
Alameda County EMS Agency

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>EMSA STAFF PRESENT</u>	<u>ALTERNATES PRESENT</u>
<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	<u>ALTERNATES ABSENT</u>	
Debbie Becker Bill Bower Bill Cody Carol Gunter Sabina Imrie Marshall Morton Tony Pallitto Kevin Rittger Kevin White Nancy Steiner Connie Telford Daryl Walker Linda Anderson Michael Harris Nancy Justin Dave Magnino Mike Metro Dean Anderson Jim Holbrook Bill Koenig Jan Ogar Karen Short Sam Stratton		
<u>PRESENT</u> Dr. Jim Pointer Steve Maiero	Frank Pratt Jim Allen Dick Mayberry David Nevins	AUDIENCE

**I Review and Approval of August 31, 1999 Meeting Minutes**

The minutes were approved with no changes.

**II Setting of the Agenda**

Nancy Steiner asked the Task Force members if they would be willing to address the following issue. Some local EMS agencies have accreditation policies that require a paramedic, who is new to their system, to work with another paramedic for a year before he/she is allowed to be a single paramedic on an EMS responding unit. Other policies require a paramedic, who is new to an EMS system, to meet benchmarks for skills use and/or experience in the field before that paramedic can serve as the single paramedic on an EMS responding unit. Some of these policies give paramedics credit for past service in other EMS systems while other policies do not. The EMS Authority questions whether accreditation is the appropriate way to address this issue or is it a training issue or an employer issue or a combination of both?

After some discussion, the Task Force members decided that this is an issue they could address under scope of practice, but only after completing work on the Model Disciplinary Orders and continuing education.

*This item will be agendized for a future meeting.*

**III Draft Model Disciplinary Guidelines**

Daryl Walker presented the definitions for gross negligence, repeated negligent acts, and incompetence that he had worked on with the Attorney General's office. After some modifications the task force voted to approve the definitions. The task force also voted to approve the recommended disciplinary actions for Health and Safety Code violations with some minor changes, except unprofessional conduct. The task force will look at this item at the next meeting after Daryl adds the maximum, recommended, and minimum

disciplines and minimum conditions of probation.

The group also voted to eliminate field internship and clinical training from the optional probation conditions and replace them with a practical skills exam related to the U. S. D.O.T. EMT-Paramedic National standard curriculum. Daryl will draft language for the practical skills exam for discussion and approval at the next meeting.

#### **IV Paramedic Task Force Members' Statement on Scope of Practice** (Carol Gunter, Sam Stratton, Frank Pratt)

Carol Gunter reviewed the draft statement on the scope of practice. Final comments on the draft should be sent to Carol prior to the next meeting. The basic recommendations are that the EMS Authority and stakeholders should consider revising regulations to require that all counties use the skills and medications in the basic scope of practice, and that procedures and medications not uniformly used by all counties be moved to the local optional scope of practice. The EMS Authority will bring copies of EMDAC's standard protocols to the next meeting.

Carol also researched the use medications and procedures in urban vs. rural settings and could not find any consistency in the selections of drugs and procedures between urban and rural.

#### **V Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p. m.